

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2986

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: DEATH OF PRINCE WAN

1. PRINCE WAN WAITHAYAKON WORAWAN, DISTINGUISHED THAI ELDER STATESMAN, A FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES (1947-52) A FORMER MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (1952-57) DIED OF CANCER IN BANGKOK EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 5. HE WAS 85. HIS LAST MAJOR PUBLIC POST WAS AS RECTOR OF THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY IN BANGKOK, FROM WHICH HE RESIGNED IN 1970. KING OF THAILAND HAS PROCLAIMED SEVEN DAYS OF MOURNING FOR HIM.

2. PERIOD WHEN PRINCE WAN WAS MOST CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH AMERICAN LEADERS WAS IN 1940'S AND 1950'S AND MANY OF HIS AMERICAN ASSOCIATES OF THAT PERIOD ARE NO LONGER ACTIVE IN PUBLIC LIFE. HOWEVER PRINCE WAN WAS SUCH AS EMINENT FIGURE IN THAI-AMERICAN RELATIONS, BOTH AS AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. AND AS THAI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN, THAT WE BELIEVE SECRETARY SHOULD BE ASKED TO APPROVE OUR SENDING FOLLOWING MESSAGE ON HIS BEHALF TO MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PHICHA:

QUOTE: THE UNITED STATES HAS LEARNED WITH DEEP SADNESS AND REGRET OF THE DEATH OF PRINCE WAN WAITHAYAKON WORAWAN. THROUGH CLOSE ASSOCIATION

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WITH HIM DURING HIS SERVICE AS THAI AMBASSADOR

TO THE UNITED STATES AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AS PRESIDENT OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND AS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, A GENERATION OF AMERICAN LEADERS
CAME TO KNOW AND RESPECT HIS AS A SINCERE FRIEND AND
AS A STRONG ADVOCATE OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND

THE BUILDING OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA-
TIONS TO SERVE MANKIND. HE LED A VERY FULL AND
USEFUL LIFE, BOTH IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
AND IN THAILAND, AND HIS PASSING IS DEEPLY FELT
BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM.

QUOTE: I HOPE THAT YOU WILL CONVEY TO HIS FAMILY
AND TO HIS MANY FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES
IN THAILAND OUR CONDOLENCES ON HIS PASSING.

END EQUOTE.

BURKE

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Message Attributes

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